



The Story of The
First Presbyterian Church
of Statesville, North Carolina
1753 - 1953

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//
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF STATESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
1753 - 1953

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY

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Duke Divinity School



Written and Directed by
VIRGINIA FRASER EVANS

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First Presbyterian Church.

9-16-58

*"A Remonstrance to the North Carolina Presbytery (Orange)
Which is to Sit in April 1773."*

*"The petition of the members of Fourth Creek Congregation
humbly sheweth, that your petitioners have been congregated
upwards of twenty years; and the place of worship in said con-
gregation hath likewise been fixed this sixteen or seventeen
years, and known by the name of Fourth Creek Meeting House
... "*

The Story of The FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of Statesville, North Carolina

(The unseen choir sings, "Come Thou Almighty King," as the lights come on.)

Narrator: In the great colony of North Carolina about the year 1735, the pioneers of the new world began to move westward in search of a new home—fertile lands and streams; a place in which they could lift their hearts and minds to Almighty God, according to the dictates of their conscience. A place where they might enjoy the fruits of their labors.

Among these pioneers was a group of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians who travelled down the "Great Road" from Philadelphia through Virginia until they came to the beautiful rolling land between the Yadkin and Catawba Rivers.

Turning westward from the Yadkin this group, known as able-bodied, hardy, famous marksmen, strangers to fear, and lovers of freedom and good land, continued on their way beyond the first, second and third creeks to the fourth creek after which their settlement was named.

SCENE I

The settlers arrive at Fourth Creek on foot, horse back and in carts. With all their possessions unloaded they gather in a group and sing, "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow," then they begin clearing the land, cutting logs and gathering wood.

First Speaker: Truly, this is the place. No more beautiful land have we seen from Pennsylvania down. The soil is rich. (He picks up handful and rubs it between his hands.) It will grow anything—everything. The streams are full of fish. In these woods there is wild game that shall be our food, and there are trees that shall be our homes, our barns, our stables, our houses of worship. Buildings of all kinds. We shall build, build, and give Him all the praise.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Narrator: Hugh G. Mitchell

Settlers—

Mr. & Mrs. W. Herbert Morrison, Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Boyd, Mrs. Mary Stevenson Brown, Mrs. Annie Stimson Troutman, Thomas A. Allison, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Vance Kennerly, Bill and Bob Kennerly, Miss Mattie Hall, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Gilbert, Paul Jr., Victor and Betty Lynn Gilbert, Mr. & Mrs. Isaac T. Avery, Jr., Marie Land, Margaret DuBose, Isaac T. III and Mary Isabella Avery, Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Sample, Sue, Mac, Janet and Sheri Sample, Mr. & Mrs. Reuben R. Cowles, Susan and Reynolds Cowles, Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Hawthorne, Jane, Mary Herbert, and Ann Hawthorne, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Slane, Jr., Barbara and Patsy Slane, Mrs. W. A. Bristol, Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Deaton, Jr., James McNeely III and Mary Palmer Deaton, Miss Lila McGeachy, Miss Peggy McGeachy, Miss Gwendolyn Earle, Miss Elizabeth Shaw, Miss Westbrook Fowler, Miss Mary Jean Montgomery, Miss Ann Neely, Miss Elaine Brett, Miss Harriet Sloop, Miss Jackie Brawley, Miss Eloise Cowles, Miss Betty Battley, Miss Elizabeth McGeachy, and Mrs. W. Bonner Knox.

PAGEANT CHOIR

Rosa Watts, *Director*

Gladys Stephens, *Organist*

*Sopranos—*Mary Helen Pharr, Ella Ann Mills, Martha Kennerly, Shirley Crump, Carrie Louise Davidson, Frances McGeachy, Rachel McAuley, Kitty Summers, Dorothy Nicholson, Anne McMichael, Harriet McAuley, Patty Warlick.

*Altos—*Betty Dotson, Virginia Quis, Estelle Brady, Nancy White, Lillie Norket, Ann Morgan, Johnnie Clendenin, Caroline Black, Johnnie Rickert, Faye Pharr.

*Tenors—*Joe Moore, Allan Poplin, Edward Coles.

*Basses—*Bob Rickert, Paul Wilhelm, Herbert Morrison, Reid Morrison, Jim Speaks, Jim Pharr, Leon Holland, Tom Kennerly, Bobby Crawford, Alexander McGeachy, Allen Knox.

With the assistance of members of the choirs of the following churches:

Broad Street Methodist
First Associate Reformed Presbyterian
First Baptist
Front Street Presbyterian
St. John's Lutheran
Rose Chapel Methodist Church

SCENE II

Narrator: No sooner had the settlers of Fourth Creek begun their home-building than the presence of Indians was known by their frightening whoops and darting arrows.

This added to their trials and tribulations. Now the men were not free to leave their wives and children to go up the creek for a mess of fish, or hunt for wild game that roamed in the nearby woods.

Scene II—

Settlers are cutting and laying logs for their houses. A war whoop sounds from the distance as several Indians creep near the clearing and peer from behind the trees. The women and children scream and run to the men for protection. An Indian shoots an arrow from his bow which pierces the arm of a little boy who is playing in the forest. The father grabs his gun and gives chase to the Indians as they whoop and dash away. The women and children are left weeping as they bathe and bind the wound of the little boy.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Hawthorne, Jane, Mary Herbert and Ann Hawthorne, Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Deaton, Jr., James McNeely III and Mary Palmer Deaton, Mr. & Mrs. Vance Kennerly, Bob Kennerly, Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Boyd, Mr. & Mrs. W. Herbert Morrison, Mrs. W. A. Bristol, Miss Elizabeth Shaw, Miss Westbrook Fowler, Miss Gwendolyn Earle, Mrs. Mary Stevenson Brown, Mrs. Annie Stimson Troutman, and Miss Mattie Hall.

Little Boy: Mac Sample.

Indians: Bobby Crawford, John Montgomery, Bobby Wilhelm, Malcolm Cameron, Nathan Moore, Bobby McLeod, Gray Lewis, Tommy Slane and Lloyd Shaw.

SCENE III

Narrator: As the days passed these courageous and godly people thanked God and sang of His blessings.

It was not all work, these first days, for they gathered often at a neighbor's to spend the day to help him build, or clear land for his crops.

Before the sun began making shadows across the oaks, work and play were stopped as they all came together to sing and pray.

Scene III—

Several carts, loaded with men, women and children drive to a neighbor's. As they approach the clearing, the men in the field walk toward them, and the women and children run to greet them.

First Speaker: Hitch your horses men, and all of you get down. Mighty proud to see you. (Shakes hands with men.)

Second Speaker: Knew you would be. The days get mighty long for my wife, and the children do love yours. You know, we all need to come together, and talk over the happenings. We need to get together to sing and pray. We need to let God know how thankful we are for our little settlement that we have made here.

Third Speaker: They are my sentiments, too. We've been here long enough now as sheep without a shepherd, and I'm for getting word to our old Synod of Philadelphia of our wants and needs. Surely, they will supply us.

(The men work in the field. The women prepare the meal, and go back and forth to the field taking buckets of water to the men. The children play.)

First Speaker: Betsy, you children quit your playing now and call your mamas for service.

(Children quit playing and run backstage calling, "Mama." All enter and sit on the ground. They sing, "We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessings." Several prayers are uttered by the men.)

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Sample, Sue, Mac, Janet and Sheri Sample.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Gilbert, Paul, Jr., Victor and Betty Lynn Gilbert.

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Slane, Jr., Patsy, and Barbara Slane.

Mr. and Mrs. Vance Kennerly, Bill and Bob Kennerly.

Mr. & Mrs. Reuben R. Cowles, Susan and Reynolds Cowles.

First Speaker: Paul Gilbert

Second Speaker: J. M. Sample

Third Speaker: Fred Slane, Jr.

Betsy: Betty Lynn Gilbert

SCENE IV

Narrator: The Synod of Philadelphia heard the call of its sons and daughters at Fourth Creek, North Carolina, and in 1751 the Rev. John Thomson, the first Christian minister to this wilderness, came to preach the Gospel. His ministry was brief, ending with his death in 1753.

Now and until 1755 the Synod of Philadelphia sent missionaries to supply the vacancies in these parts with recommendations to show special regard to those between the Yadkin and Catawba Rivers.

Among the missionaries visiting the Fourth Creek settlers during these years were, the Rev. Robert McMordie, the Rev. William Donaldson, the Rev. William McKennan and the Rev. Matthew Wilson. In 1756 and 1758, the Rev. John Allison and the Rev. Alexander Miller were commissioned to this service.

The congregations assembled for worship at places called "stands." A board was placed between two trees to hold the Bible, the catechism, the tuning fork and a bucket of water with a gourd for the servant of God while he read the Scripture, taught the catechism and raised the tunes.

For miles around the settlers came to the "stand" located about a mile north of the center of the congregation, to hear their first preaching in their new settlement. Each man furnished his own family seats of unhewn split logs, where his family sat for hours listening to the Gospel and the doctrines of the Presbyterian church.

Scene IV—

The Rev. John Thomson leads his flock in prayer, reads the 145th Psalm and pitches the tune on the tuning fork for the congregation to sing, "All People That on Earth Do Dwell." After the closing prayer, the members speak to each other and to the minister who later leaves with a family for dinner.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Families in Scene I

*The Rev. John Thomson—*Mr. J. O. McAuley

SCENE V

Narrator: The congregation, now with a minister, planned for a permanent place of worship—a meeting house.

In the center of their settlement was a beautiful site—a hill with oak trees and a spring nearby. The land belonged to Fergus Sloan and he permitted the congregation to use it for more than thirty years before he deeded a two and one-half acre tract, including the church site and cemetery, and a right-of-way to the spring to the congregation in 1786.

Here the members of the congregation drove stakes for the building and hauled in logs, but their work was interrupted by the increasing trouble with the Indians, and finally the French and Indian War.

Fearing the loss of lives and lands, grants which belonged to him, Governor Dobbs deemed it wise and necessary to erect a fort on the western frontier.

In June 1755, the Governor set out to look over his grants and to fix the location of the fort.

Arriving at Fourth Creek, Governor Dobbs was joined by Captain Hugh Waddell, commander of a company of frontiersmen. Some of these were members of the Fourth Creek congregation who assisted in locating the fort site in the fork of Fourth Creek and Morrison Branch.

While here, Governor Dobbs received the news of Braddock's defeat and death, which made it necessary for him to depart immediately.

Captain Waddell and the frontiersmen soon completed the fort where the Fourth Creek congregation sought refuge until the end of the war.

Scene V—

Governor Dobbs and his party meet Captain Waddell and his men. They shake hands, study a map, motion to the rear and hasten there to measure and stake off the fort.

A young soldier, gun in hand, runs breathlessly to the Governor and announces the defeat and death of General Braddock. The Governor is deeply stirred by this news. He bids farewell to the frontiersmen and quickly departs.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Governor Dobbs: Zeb. Vance Long, Jr.

Official party accompanying the Governor: Ben F. Miller, E. H. McCunkin and Thomas A. Allison, Jr.

Captain Hugh Waddell: Henry Long.

Frontiersmen: Vance Kennerly, Paul Gilbert, Jim Sample, I. T. Avery, Jr., Reuben R. Cowles, Herbert Hawthorne, Fred Slane, Jr. and J. M. Deaton, Jr.

Messenger: Allen L. Mills, Jr.

SCENE VI

Narrator: In spite of these troublous and uncertain times, the men of Fourth Creek congregation finished their little log meeting house by 1757. Without a minister, they had no preaching except for the missionaries who were taking turns in bringing the message of God to them.

In 1764, the Rev. Elihu Spencer and the Rev. Alexander McWhorter arrived with instructions from Synod to "form societies, help in adjusting bounds, ordain elders and dispense with the sacraments." It was at this time that the congregation was formally organized and became a member of Hanover Presbytery which was the only presbytery south of the Potomac in connection with the Synod.

In 1770 Orange Presbytery was set up in North Carolina, and from this the Concord Presbytery was formed in March 1796.

The Rev. Mr. Spencer was called as pastor of the congregation and of Thyatira, but he declined, leaving the pulpit again to the missionaries.
Scene VI—

Members of the congregation arrive to meet with the Rev. Mr. Spencer and the Rev. Mr. McWhorter to organize the congregation.

First Speaker: How good it is to have you come to help us with our religious affairs. We want our congregation organized in the best-known manner.

The Rev. Mr. Spencer: It is a privilege and a duty that I perform for the glory of God. You good people are laying the foundations for a great institution, and I am happy to have a part in it. (Shakes hands with the men and women about him as he speaks. They exit in the direction of the meeting house.)

(Several pretty girls stop at the spring at the foot of the hill and bathe their tired and dusty feet before going into the meeting house for the long sermon.) The choir sings, "The Lord is My Shepherd."

CAST OF CHARACTERS

The Rev. Elihu Spencer: Monroe Adams.

The Rev. Alexander McWhorter: H. H. King.

First Speaker: J. M. Deaton, Jr.

Congregation: Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Mills, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Mitchon, Carroll Lee and Katherine Mitchon, Mrs. E. H. McJunkin, Mr. & Mrs. W. G. McClelland, Mrs. H. L. Kincaid, Mr. & Mrs. T. L. Kincaid, Thomas L., Jr., and Leilia Steele Kincaid, Mr. S. H. Stevenson, Mrs. Louis MacKesson, Jr., Mary and Barbara Ann MacKesson, Miss Celia Krider, Mrs. D. B. Krider, Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Earle, Edwin, Larry and Deloris Earle, Mrs. Frank Hall, Mrs. H. H. King, Mrs. Fred Crawford, and Mrs. R. M. Gray.

Girls: Miss Mary Battley, Miss Linda Ketchie, Miss Mary Greenwood, Miss Sue Barringer, Miss Lavina King, Miss Sue Sample and Miss Sue Moore.

SCENE VII

(Several men are gathered around an old table looking over a map and some papers.)

William Sharpe: Gentlemen, I have completed the drawing of the map showing the residences of the members of the Fourth Creek congregation. There are one hundred and ninety-six families.

Second Speaker: Who are they? Read them, please.

All: Yes, do.

(Mr. Sharpe reads the list of names.)

NAMES ON FOURTH CREEK CONGREGATION MAP

Adams, James	Cooper, John	Houston, Christopher
Ailison, Thomas		Houston, James
Alexander, Alen	Davidson, Joseph	Housten, Samuel
Alexander, Gabriel	Dobbins, James	
Allison, Adam	Dobbins, John	Ireland, John
Allison, Thomas	Dobson, Benjamin	Ireland, William
Andrew, David	Dobson, Joseph	Irwin, Christopher
Archibald, Jerome	Duffie, Patrick	Irwin, George
Archibald, Thomas		Irwin, John
Archibald, William	Edmund, William	Irwin, Thomas
	Forgey, Widdow	Irwin, William
Bailie, James	Fleming, John	Irwins, Abraham
Bailie, John	Freeland, Andrew	
Bailie, William		Johnson, Andrews
Beard, William	Gay, James	
Beaty, William	Graham, William	Kilpatrick, Andrew
Bill, Thomas	Griffith, Thebius	King, James
Bill, Widdow	Guthrie, Robert	King, John
Black, David		King, Robert
Bones, John	Haden, Robert	Knox, James
Bones, Thomas	Hall, Hugh	Knox, Joseph
Bones, William	Hall, James	Kuttedge, John
Bowman, Hugh	Hall, Thomas	(Rutledge)
Boyd, Robert	Hall, William	
Brown, William	Hamilton, James	Leach, John
	Harris, Samuel	Locker, John
Caldwell, David, Capt.	Henderson, John	Logan, David
Carson, Robert	Henry, Thomas	Logan, Joseph
Cavin, Widdow	Hill, Davis	Long, Samuel
Chambers, Henry	Hill, Ephriam	
Chambers, Robert	Hill, James	Miligan, James
Chambers, William	Hill, John	Miller, A. James
Clendennon, Matt	Hill, Robert	Montgomery, John
Cooper, James	Holmes, James	Morrison, Andrew

Morrison, Andrew	Oliphant, Matthew	Steel, Niniah
Morrison, James	Ormond, Widdow	Steel, Ninian
Morrison, John	Porter, Thomas	Steel, James
Morrison, Patrick	Potts, Henry	Steel, Robert
Morrison, Thomas	Potts, James	Stephenson, Hugh
Morrison, William	Potts, Moses	Stephenson, John
Morton, John	Puioinee, James	Stephenson, William
Murdoch, James	(Purviance)	Stinson, John
Murdoch, John	Pusoinnee, John	Stinson, Robert
Murdoch, Robert	(Purviance)	Stinson, Widdow
McCallan, James		
McCleland, John	Reed, Alexander	Taxen, Robert
McCleland, Nicholas	Reed, Andrew	Thomas, Jacob
McCleland, William	Reed, George	Thompson, John
McCleland, William, Jr.	Reed, Henry	Thompson, Peter
McCletchey, John	Reed, John	Thomton, Samuel
McCrary, William	Rodgers, James	Tracey, Widdow
McCrury, James	Rosebrough, John	Trotter, John
McFarlan, James	Rosebrough, Samuel	
McGuire, Thomas	Rosebrough, Widdow	Wadde, William
McGuire, Timothy	Rosebrough, William	Waiegh, Daniel Boyd
McHargue, James	Rowby, Widdow	Wasson, Archibald
McHargue, John		Wasson, Joseph
McKee, John	Sharpe, John	Wasson, Joseph
McKee, Widdow	Sharpe, William	Wasson, Samuel
McKinney, Andrew	Shaw, James	Watt, Joseph
McKnight, James	Shodman, Francis	Watt, William
McKnight, William	Simonton, Adams	Whaley, Joseph
McKoun, Widdow	Simonton, Adams	White, William
McLoun, James	Simonton, Robert	Wilson, Francis
McNeely, Thomas	Simonton, William	Wilson, John
McWhorter, Hugh	Sloan, Fergus	Wilson, Thomas
McWhorter, John	Sloan, John	Witherspoon, Alexander
	Smith, John	Witherspoon, John
Nieebury, Alexander	Smith, Robert	Wodford, Joseph
Nesbet, John	Snoddy, Samuel	Woods, Robert
Nesbet, Moses	Steart, John	Young, William
Nicholas, John		

Third Speaker: My, my, our congregation has grown since we first met at the stand back in 1753. Brother Thomson wouldn't know us. We have outgrown ourselves. Our meeting house is old and is much too small.

Second Speaker: I suggest that we petition the presbytery for a division of our congregation and propose that the old meeting house be torn away. We have already made the necessary motions in our congregational meeting. There is nothing else to be done. Mr. Sharpe, what are your suggestions as to the division of the congregation?

William Sharpe: One location could be over here near Fort Dobbs, about at Beattie's old field. The second could be over here in the opposite direction near the point where Rocky Creek from the north enters the South Yadkin, and on the north side of the stream. That will give us a meeting house every seven miles, and no one will have too far to go.

Third Speaker: That's it. That is just what the congregation wants. Let's get on with it. (Exit with map and papers.)

CAST OF CHARACTERS

William Sharpe: Frank Furchess.

Second Speaker: R. M. Rickert, Jr.

Third Speaker: R. M. Rickert, Sr.

Other members of congregation: S. H. Stevenson, H. E. Mitchon and W. G. McClelland.

SCENE VIII

Narrator: From the Fourth Creek congregation Concord and Bethany were born. To these three congregations in 1778 came the Rev. James Hall, a native son who was destined to become one of the greatest men in the state.

The congregation had as its elders at this time, James Barr, William Stevenson, known as "Little Gabriel," because the members thought he approached the throne nearer than anyone else in the congregation, John Stevenson, Andrew McEnzie, John Murdock, Mussendine Matthews and John McLelland.

One of the first accomplishments during the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Hall was the construction of a new meeting house. The first one being old and dilapidated now.

In 1780, a fine sturdy log building 80 x 40 was erected. "The nails that were used were hauled in wagons from Baltimore at a cost for freight of ten cents per pound and sold for fifty cents."

It was unfinished and unceiled for a long time until James and Robert Simonton completed it. For eighty-three years it was the house of worship of the Fourth Creek congregation.

Scene VIII—

The Rev. Mr. Hall walks with his Bible in hand to the center of the stage where he is met by the elders who shake hands with him, and walk in the direction of the meeting house in the grove.

The choir sings: "O God of Bethel, By Whose Hand."

CAST OF CHARACTERS

The Rev. James Hall: Frank Hall.

Elders: James Barr, Hal Ostwalt; William Stevenson, S. Harry Stevenson; John Stevenson, Louis Brown; Andrew McEnzie, J. C. Steele, Jr.; John Murdock, Richard Hall; Mussendine Matthews, Coite Dotson, and John McClelland, W. G. McClelland.

SCENE IX

Narrator: Again the quiet and peaceful life of this congregation was disturbed. This time the settlers followed their minister, the Rev. James Hall, who had been made chaplain and captain of a troop of cavalry, in the relief of the colonists against the British.

Scene IX—

The organ is playing as a man rides up on horseback and calls "Brother Hall," "Brother Hall." (The Rev. Mr. Hall leaves the pulpit to answer. He stands just inside the grove at the door of the meeting house.)

Messenger: General Davidson has been killed at Cowan's Ford. They need help. More men.

The Rev. Mr. Hall: (Turning toward meeting house.) How many of you men will meet me here at daylight in the morning with rations enough to last five days? (Loud chorus of "I will.")

(Light go off.)

Next Morning—(Soft lighting of dawn.) (Men begin gathering to leave for war. Women and children come with them. Mr. Hall raises his hand for prayer. The men kiss their families, mount their horses and ride away.)

CAST OF CHARACTERS

The Rev. James Hall: Frank Hall.

Messenger: Allen L. Mills, Jr.

Families in Scene VI.

SCENE X

Narrator: At the close of the War Between the States, the capitol in Raleigh was in danger of being destroyed.

Governor Zebulon Baird Vance, upon the advice of friends, selected Statesville as a suitable location for his residence. The house belonging to the Waddell's was rented for the Vance family where they lived for several months, and where the Governor transacted the affairs of the state, until he was carried as a prisoner to the Federal Military camp at Salisbury.

While in Statesville, Governor Vance taught a class of boys in the Sunday School. Among the members of his class were, J. P. Caldwell, Thomas E. Anderson and S. W. Stimson.

Scene X—

After Sunday School, Governor Vance comes out of the meeting house with his class of boys. He shakes hands with them.

Governor Vance: My boys, it was, indeed, a pleasure being with you in your study of that beautiful lesson of our Master.

(Members of the congregation stop and welcome the Governor as they leave the meeting house.)

Mrs. Vance and her four sons join the Governor. The minister, Dr. Walter W. Pharr shakes hands with them.

Dr. Pharr: The congregation welcomes you and is happy to have you worship with us while in our midst.

The Governor and his family acknowledge the minister's remarks by nodding and smiling as they all exit together.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Governor Vance: Henry W. Allen.

Mrs. Vance: Mrs. Henry W. Allen.

The Four Vance Boys: Pressly Gilbert, Neill McGeachy, Billy and Mike Mills.

Boys in Sunday School Class: William Pharr, Bobby Lee Parks, Sonny Gregory, Noble Mills, Jackie Coley, Gary Stamper, John Schell, Hubert Schell, and Frank McLaughlin.

Dr. Walter W. Pharr: C. E. Pharr.

Members of congregation: Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Cowles, Sally and Eloise Cowles, Mrs. W. T. Warlick, Mrs. R. M. Gray, Mrs. H. H. King, and Mrs. Fred Crawford.

SCENE XI

Narrator: Five times more the Fourth Creek congregation answered the call to defend that which they believed was right.

Scene XI—

As the Narrator reads the name of the war, a soldier in that particular uniform and carrying the flag of that war, marches across the stage to the tune popular at that time.

War Between the States "Dixie"
Spanish-American War "American Patrol"
World War I "When Johnny Comes Marching Home"
World War II Marines' Hymn
Korean War "Semper Fidelis"

At the close of the scene the choir sings, "The Son of God Goes Forth to War."

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Robert M. Simons, Joel Marlin, Charles C. Mills, James A. Brady, Jr., and Bobby F. Travis.

High School Band: Gerald N. Bryant, Director.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Brown, William	Irwin, Thomas	Reed, John
Caldwell, David	King, John	Sharpe, John
	Knox, James	Sharpe, William
Dobbins, James	Knox, Joseph	Sloan, Fergus
		Smith, John
Hall, Hugh	Matthews, Mussendine	Stuart, John
Hall, James	Morrison, John	Stephenson, John
Hall, William	Morrison, William	Stephenson, William
Hamilton, James	McWhorter, John	
Hill, James		Thompson, John
Hill, Robert	Nesbit, John	
Holmes, James		Wilson, John
Houston, Christopher	Purviance, James	
Housten, James	Purviance, John	Young, William

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

Alexander, Gladius	Hall, M. N.	Perry, D. A.
Allison, Richard	Harrill, Dr. L.	Phifer, T. M.
Andrews, C. M.	Hill, Dr. William	Phifer, W. S.
Andrews, J. B.		Poston, John
	Knox, J. G.	
Bailey, T. A.	Kelly, Archibald	Rickert, E. P.
Barkley, James		Rickert, J. H.
Burke, J. P.	Leinster, Robert O.	Rickert, William T.
		Robbins, W. M.
Campbell, Dr. W. M.	Montieth, James	
Carlton, P. C.	Morgan, J. N.	Shuford, George
Chambers, P. B.	Murdock, Thomas	Simonton, A. K.
Chambers, W. A.	McElwee, J. H.	Speck, W. T.
Cooper, John	McEwen, Wm. B.	Steele, J. C.
Cowan, R. V.	McLelland, W. A.	Summers, N. P.
Crawford, J. M.	McRorie, W. F.	
	Mills, C. A.	Walker, A. M.
Deal, R. A.	Mills, M. M.	Walton, W. W.
Deal, W. M.	Mills, W. C.	White, J. C.
Dellinger, J. N.	Morrison, J. A.	White, Robert O.
	Morrison, R. A.	Wood, W. A.
Eagle, W. S.		Wooten, F. F.
	Overcash, H. A.	

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

Allison, R. P.	Holton, Emmett W.	Leinster, Roy L.
Flanigan, Robert L.	Kennerly, Will C.	Marlin, W. J.
Hall, J. Henry		Wood, Miles C.

WORLD WAR I

Adams, C. Monroe	Easley, Dr. P. S.	Long, McK. R.
Adams, Minor R., Jr.	Etheridge, D. M.	
Allen, Henry		McAuley, Francis
Allison, Raymond	Flanigan, R. L.	McClellan, Dr. J. H.
Allison, William L.	French, Rev. Herbert A.	McLaughlin, Richard R.
		McRorie, Hugh
Barnett, David E., Jr.	Gaither, Dr. Long	McRorie, Robert
Barringer, John M.	Gibson, Dr. L. O.	Marvin, Oscar M.
Black, L. A.	Gill, Allen G.	Mills, Charles C.
Boyd, A. J.	Gill, John B., Jr.	Mills, Lonnie N.
Bradley, Fred (Mike)	Gray, R. M.	Mills, Charles D.
Bradley, James		Miller, Samuel McK.
Brady, Frank	Hartness, Frank A.	Miller, Joseph
Brady, James A., Sr.	Hartness, William	Mitchell, Richard
Brady, William R.	Hill, Frank	
Brumley, S. V.	Hill, Dr. Robert	Rhodes, Henry D.
	Hill, Thomas M.	
Campbell, Dr. R. A.	Holder, J. C.	Scott, Gordon
Clark, Johnnie	Holmes, Ralph T., Sr.	Scott, John A., Jr.
Cooper, J. Ben., Sr.		Simons, Locke R.
Cowles, Miles	Ives, John B.	Stevenson, S. H.
Cowles, Wm. H. H.		Stimson, E. B.
Cunningham, Milton	Johnson, J. W., Sr.	
Current, W. C.	Jones, S. P.	Turner, Lonnie G.
Deaton, Augustus	Kincaid, J. N.	Warlick, W. T.
Deaton, Frank	King, H. H.	White, Leonard, Jr.
Dimmette, L. E.	Knox, Sam J.	White, Robert A.
Dye, Dr. J. C.		Wood, S. Krider

WORLD WAR II

Adams, C. M., Jr.	Gaither, John M. Jr.	Lambertson, George
Aldridge, Ben S.	Galbreath, Eddie	Lane, L. P.
Allison, Thomas Ausley	Gallyon, Charles	Lazenby, Stuart
Avery, Isaac Thomas, Jr.	Gardner, Robin B.	Ledbetter, Frank M.
	Gibson, Glenn	Lee, John N.
Battley, W. Richard	Gilbert, Harry A.	Leinster, E. Benton
Benbow, Charles D.	Gilbert, Walter L., Jr.	Lewis, Nosco M., Jr.
Black, Lee A., Jr.	Gill, Allen G.	Long, Benjamin F.
Brady, James A., Jr.	Gray, J. Morris	Long, Dr. Forrest B.
Bryant, James E.	Gray, James, P., Jr.	Long, Henry Allison
Bryant, Richard	Gray, McDonald, Jr.	Long, John Addison
Bryant, William	Graybill, Cecil	Long, McK. R., Jr.
	Grier, Miss Ann	Long, Robert
		Long, William M.
Carlton, Charles W.		Long, Zeb Vance, Jr.
Carter, William P.	Hall, Samuel G.	
Charles, Jack	Hall, William Edward	
Clendenin, Ray C.	Hancock, Mary	Milam, Jack
Coley, David F.	Harbin, Fred F.	Milholland, John L., Jr.
Coley, Fred C.	Harbin, James S.	Miller, Joseph Henry
Cooper, Ben, Jr.	Harbin, Walter C.	Mills, Allen L., Jr.
Cornelius, George	Hawthorne, Herbert C.	Mills, Charles C., Jr.
Cowles, Miles A.	Hill, James C.	Mills, Lonnie Neil, Jr.
Coles, Stuart L.	Hill, Lawrence	Mills, O. R., Jr.
Crump, M. G.	Hill, Robert B.	Morgan, Paul
	Hill, William R.	Morris, William G., Jr.
Dearman, O. A., Jr.	Holland, Stamey J., Jr.	Morrison, J. Reid
Deaton, James M.	Holland, William D.	Morrison, W. H., Jr.
Deaton, Paul M.	Hunter, Luther	Morrison, W. Scarr, Jr.
Dobbins, F. H.		Mundhenke, Roland
Dooley, Carroll	Innes, Howard	MacKesson, L. W., Jr.
Dooley, Mrs. Carroll		McBride, John L., Jr.
Dotson, James Coite	Jennings, W. H.	McElwee, Nathan
Dotson, William S.	Johnston, Leila D.	McElwee, Ross, Jr.
		McElwee, William H.
Earle, Brockman, Jr.	Keller, Lee	McJunkin, E. H.
Earle, John B.	Kennerly, Fred M.	McKenzie, Paul
Eliason, Adlai H.	Kennerly, Thomas C.	McLaughlin, John R.
Elkins, Horace N., Jr.	Kennerly, Vance	McLaughlin, Wm. R.
Ervin, Mary Louise	Kimbrell, Crawford	McRorie, Robert, Jr.
Evans, J. S., Jr.	Kimbrell, William C.	
	Kimbrell, J. B.	Neely, Pinkney M.
Flanigan, Walter	Kincaid, Thomas Lee	Neely, Samuel H.
Freeman, W. Morris	King, Lester P.	Nicholson, Marianna
Furches, Frank	Knox, J. Allen	Nicholson, John H.
Furches, Clayton S.	Knox, James Allen, Jr.	
	Krider, Daniel B., Jr.	O'Kelly, Charles

O'Kelly, Thomas L., Jr.	Scott, Edgar Everett	Verble, Ira E.
Oliver, Ed.	Seville, James W., Jr.	Verble, Mrs. Ira E.
Ostwalt, Edith	Sherrill, Walter E., Jr.	Vickery, James R.
Ostwalt, Fred Jr.,	Simpson, J. Dillon, Jr.	Vickery, Mrs. James R.
Ostwalt, Hal C.	Smith, James Lawrence	
	Smith, Robert J.	
Parker, Frank	Spainhour, John E.	Ward, W. I.
Pharr, James Edgar	Stafford, Wilbur	Warlick, William C.
Poplin, James T.	Stauber, Van G.	Webb, William E., Jr.
Price, Howard I.	Steele, A. Preston, Jr.	Wellborn, W. R., Jr.
Puriyoy, Dan	Steele, Clarence N.	White, J. S.
	Steele, F. M.	Whiting, Frank E.
Raynal, Charles E., Jr.	Steele, James C.	Whiting, Isaac
Raynal, Henry M.	Steele, W. Irvin, Jr.	Whiting, James A.
Raynal, John Scott	Stevenson, David	Whiting, Jesse E.
Rice, Herman Read, Jr.	Stone, Morgan	Whitley, Sam P.
Rhodes, Paul	Stronach, Angus	Williams, R. M., Jr.
Richardson, Randolph		Wilson, William C., Jr.
Rickert, Robert M., Jr.	Tesh, John O.	Wilson, Wade H.
Ritchie, Charles A.	Tharpe, Bailey	Witherington, M. P.
Ritchie, James E.	Tharpe, James Edward	Wood, Miles C., Jr.
Ritchie, Rebecca	Tharpe, Max B.	Wooten, Billy
Roach, Jack T.	Turner, Dwight L.	
Romein, Mrs. Tunis		Yount, Eugene M.
Romein, Tunis		

KOREAN WAR

Avery, Isaac T., Jr.	Gray, R. McDonald	Nicholson, J. H.
	Gray, W. B.	
Batte, Tommy	Harbin, F. F.	Parks, John A.
Battley, W. R.	Holmes, Ralph T., Jr.	Parks, Thomas M.
Boyd, William B.		
Brady, Robert	Johnston, Robert E.	Quis, Francis R.
	Jones, J. Wesley, Jr.	Rhodes, Russell B.
Charles, Jack		Ritchie, Charles A.
Cowles, Miles A.	Kimbrell, Jasper B.	
		Scott, Gordon P., Jr.
Elkins, H. N., Jr.	Long, Ben J.	Stimson, Ben, Jr.
Flanigan, Walter L.	Meredith, John S.	Travis, Bobby
Fleming, Edgar L.	Mills, O. R., Jr.	
Furches, Frank W.	Murray, John R.	Warlick, Samuel F.

Compiled by MRS. W. BONNER KNOX and LOUIS A. BROWN

SCENE XII

Narrator: Education went hand in hand with religion, in the minds of the Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. Along with their homes and houses of worship, the Fourth Creek congregation built academies. Often they were on the same grounds with the meeting house, and the ministers were the teachers.

When Dr. Hall came to the congregation as its first minister in 1778, he being a well-educated man, established the Clio Nursery on Snow Creek, about ten miles away. Until it burned in 1787, it was a very important institution of learning attended by students who later were among the nation's most noted men.

After this school burned, Dr. Hall opened Science Hall in his home. For many years it was considered the best scientific school in the state.

An academy was built in the grove by the meeting house about 1815, and for five years was "a large and flourishing school," with the Rev. John Mushat, as principal.

The session house was also used for a girls' school in 1823, by Mrs. Zilpha Gould, wife of the minister, the Rev. Daniel Gould.

The Ebenezer Academy, near Bethany church opened in 1821, under the leadership of Hugh R. Hall, Esquire.

Other institutions of learning in the Fourth Creek settlement included: a girls' school conducted by Mrs. Robert L. Caldwell, in 1831, wife of the minister, the Rev. Mr. Caldwell; the Rev. Jesse Rankin's school in 1838; Samuel R. Bell, Miss Emma Bell, Miss Tabitha Rankin and Peter Stewart Ney said to be the famous Marshal Ney of France; the Rev. James Knox and Mr. Samuel Morrison superintended academies in 1847. Mr. Morrison's school was still used as a male academy in 1870.

On September 4, 1852, the Concord Presbytery met in regular session and decided "to build up somewhere in our bounds a Female Institute of high character in which sound learning would be imparted and a finished education could be obtained on Christian principles; and (we) believe this endeavor is closely connected with the best interests of our country; that it would give character to our church."

Statesville was selected and on September 15, 1856 the Concord Presbyterian Female College opened with Mr. John B. Tinsley of Richmond, Virginia as the first president.

The name of the college was changed in 1873 to Simonton Female College, and again in 1884 to Statesville Female College.

In 1917, the request was made by six Statesville ladies to the executive committee of the Board of Trustees to rename the college, Mitchell after Mrs. Eliza Mitchell Grant and her sister, Miss Margaret Mitchell who presided over the college from 1875 until 1883. The name was changed April 7, 1917.

Through the years, Mitchell College has maintained a high place in the field of education, and has made rich contributions in its men and women in every phase of life.

Mr. John Montgomery, the present president came to the college in 1947.

Scene XII—

The choir sings the Alma Mater of the college as the president, Mr. John Montgomery walks across the stage.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

President of Mitchell College: John Montgomery.

SCENE XIII

Narrator: In these two hundred years the members of the Fourth Creek congregation have built six houses of worship to the glory of God. Each time, they built to meet the needs of their growing membership.

After the first little log meeting house built in 1757 had served its usefulness, another house built of logs took its place in the same location in 1780. So sturdy was its construction that it lasted until May, 1863, when the first brick edifice costing \$8,000 was dedicated. Serving on the building committee were, Col. T. J. Allison, J. W. Stockton, J. F. Bell, Hugh Reynolds, R. F. Simonton and Dr. Y. S. Dean. Because of the particular kind of construction of the ceiling and walls, the building was declared unsafe. Another brick building was constructed using the same materials of the other church. This was dedicated December 31, 1870, with Dr. E. F. Rockwell, a former pastor delivering the dedicatory address.

The term "meeting house" was discontinued in 1875, and the Fourth Creek congregation became the First Presbyterian Church of Statesville, North Carolina.

In 1890, the third brick building was completed, and was used until the present building costing over two hundred thousand dollars was completed, with Mr. N. B. Mills as chairman of the building committee. The first service was held in this church July 26, 1925, and it was dedicated December 23, 1940.

Leading the congregation in paths of righteousness for His name sake for these two centuries were: the Rev. John Thomson 1751-1753; Missionaries, Robert McMordie, William Donaldson, William McKennan and Matthew Wilson 1753-1755; the Rev. Alexander Craighead and the Rev. James Hunt supplied 1762; the Rev. Elihu Spencer and the Rev. Alexander McWhorter 1764; Dr. James Hall, the first installed and regular minister 1778-1790.

DR. JAMES HALL

Dr. Hall, born of Scotch-Irish parentage, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, August 22, 1744 and removed by them to North Carolina when about eight years old.

At the age of thirty-one he was graduated from Nassau Hall, Princeton, with a Bachelor of Science degree. He continued his theological reading under the direction of President Witherspoon of Princeton, and was installed pastor of the united congregations of Fourth Creek, Concord and Bethany on the 8th of April, 1778.

During the twelve years as pastor of these congregations, Dr. Hall established Clio Nursery and Science Hall which were among the most important institutions of learning at that time. He was also one of the organizers of the Princeton Theological Seminary.

Recognizing Dr. Hall as a brilliant scholar, an outstanding scientist, a skillful inventor, a great teacher, an able military leader, and a beloved minister, Princeton and the University of North Carolina bestowed upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Dr. Hall died July 25, 1826, and was buried in the Bethany cemetery beside the church which he served for thirty-eight years.

DR. LEWIS FEUILLETEAU WILSON

Dr. Lewis Feuilleteau Wilson, second regular minister 1793-1803, was a friend and classmate of Dr. Hall. He was born on St. Christopher's Island, the son of a wealthy planter. He was educated in the schools of London, and received his B.S. degree from Princeton in 1773.

Following his graduation, Mr. Lewis served as a tutor at Princeton and began his studies of Divinity, but was interrupted by the Revolutionary War in which he served as a surgeon.

Returning to Princeton after the war, Mr. Wilson continued his study of the Bible and was called to fill the pulpits of Fourth Creek and Concord in June, 1793.

Dr. Lewis was married to Miss Margaret Hall, daughter of Mr. Hugh Hall. Upon his death on December 11, 1804, Dr. Wilson left his widow and seven children. Two of his three sons became ministers of the gospel.

Dr. E. McCorcle, Dr. James McRee, the Rev. John M. Irvin and the Rev. John Mushat supplied between 1804 and 1822.

THE REV. DANIEL GOULD

The Rev. Daniel Gould, the third regular minister served from 1823-1828. He was born in Nottingham, New Hampshire, on November 12, 1780. He attended Harvard College but did not graduate. He transferred from Harvard to Andover Seminary, from which he graduated in 1820.

Late in 1821 he came to North Carolina and supplied the Fourth Creek congregation in 1822 and was installed as pastor of the church the following year.

In 1828 he resigned and became the agent in Concord Presbytery for the American Bible Society.

Mr. Gould was operating a book store in Charlotte, as well as working for the Bible Society and supplying vacant churches when he died at the age of forty-five, on April 29, 1834.

Dr. Rockwell said of Mr. Gould, that "he was an active, laborious and zealous man."

THE REV. ROBERT LINSAY CALDWELL

The Rev. Robert Lindsay Caldwell followed Mr. Gould in 1829 and remained until 1832. He was the son of the Rev. Samuel Craighead Caldwell and his wife, Elizabeth Lindsay. He was born in 1805, within the bounds of the Sugar Creek Presbyterian congregation, where his father was the pastor.

He was prepared for college in his father's classical school at Sugar Creek and graduated from the University of Georgia.

Mr. Caldwell attended Union Theological Seminary at Hampden-Sidney, Virginia, graduating in 1829. He was licensed by Concord Presbytery that same year, and began supplying the Fourth Creek pulpit. In 1831 Mr. Caldwell was ordained and installed as the pastor of the church, but his ministry was very brief, because he died on November 17, 1832, at the age of twenty-seven.

The Rev. J. S. McCutchen, the Rev. Samuel Paisley, the Rev. Jesse Rankin and the Rev. John E. McPherson supplied from 1833-1840.

DR. ELIJAH FRINK ROCKWELL

Dr. Elijah Frink Rockwell, the next regular pastor came in 1840 and filled the pulpit for the next ten years. Dr. Rockwell was a native of Connecticut and a graduate of Yale College. In 1835, he came to North Carolina where he taught in the Donaldson Academy at Fayetteville. After teaching for two years Dr. Rockwell studied Theology at Columbia and Princeton Theological Seminaries.

Following his pastorate in the Fourth Creek congregation, Dr. Rockwell taught at Davidson College from 1850-1868, then he came back to Statesville as the president of the Concord Presbyterian Female College (now Mitchell College.)

During the latter years of his life he supplied the Presbyterian Churches in this vicinity, Third Creek, Unity, Bethesda, Fifth Creek, Tabor and Bethany.

In 1882, the University of North Carolina conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

From 1885 until 1887, Dr. Rockwell lived at Cool Springs, and he died in Statesville on April 15, 1888, and is buried in Oakwood cemetery.

Dr. Rockwell wrote extensively of the early history of this section of North Carolina, and his writings appeared in newspapers in various sections of the country. The Davidson Monthly Journal published several of his works.

THE REV. PLEASANT HUNTER DALTON

The Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton was pastor from 1851 until 1856.

Mr. Dalton, son of Nicholas Dalton, was born on March 4, 1821. He was a native of North Carolina, a graduate of the University of North Carolina, and a licentiate of Orange Presbytery. He later studied at Princeton.

He was active in religious affairs throughout the entire state, especially the Piedmont, and helped to organize many Presbyterian churches in cities in that area. He was one of two from North Carolina who signed the charter organizing our present Southern Presbyterian Church.

He became pastor of the Fourth Creek Church in Statesville in 1851, and served in that capacity until 1856, when he resigned to go to the eastern part of the state.

He was the founder of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point and the first resident minister there. He served in High Point for two terms: 1859-1866 and 1875-1889.

His direct descendants now live in High Point and he is represented here tonight by his grandson, Pleasant Hunter Dalton; his great grandson, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, Jr.; and his great-great grandson, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, III.

DR. WALTER WELLINGTON PHARR

Dr. Walter Wellington Pharr succeeded Mr. Dalton in 1857 and served until 1869.

Dr. Pharr was born October 11, 1813, and was the son of the Reverend Walter Smiley Pharr and his wife, Jane Bane Caldwell. He graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1839 and from Union Theological Seminary, Hampden-Sidney, Virginia, in the Class of 1842. Dr. Pharr was ordained by Concord Presbytery in October 1844 and his first pastorate was at Poplar Tent. In 1857 he was called to the pastorate of the Fourth Creek congregation and served here until 1869, when he accepted the pastoral call of the Mallard Creek Church in Mecklenburg County. The University of North Carolina recognizing his abilities conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. Dr. Pharr died on November 10, 1886, after three years of declining health, greatly beloved and highly honored by the churches he had served.

DR. WILLIAM ANDREW WOOD

Dr. William A. Wood, the son of William B. and Margaret Costin Wood was born in Rowan County, near Thyatira Church, on November 28, 1831. He graduated from Davidson College in 1852 and, after teaching for two years, went to Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey. He also attended Columbia Theological Seminary, Columbia, South Carolina, and the Free Church College at Edinburgh, Scotland for one year. He was ordained and installed by Concord Presbytery as pastor of Bethany, Fifth Creek, and Tabor Churches on July 23, 1859. During 1860

and '61 he served as pastor of the Washington (N. C.) Church, and with the outbreak of the War Between the States he became chaplain of the 4th North Carolina Regiment in the Confederate army. In 1863 he was discharged and served the Asheville Church as stated supply until 1865. For four years Dr. Wood served the Third Creek and Unity Churches and then in the fall of 1869 he was called to the Fourth Creek Church. During his pastorate in 1875 the name of the church was changed from Fourth Creek to the First Presbyterian Church. Dr. Wood was honored by Hampden-Sidney College in 1879, when it conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He also served on the Board of Trustees of Davidson College for many years. Dr. Wood, after a pastorate of thirty years, died on April 2, 1900, greatly beloved, not only by his congregation but by the whole community.

A monument, erected by the congregation as an expression of its affection and sorrow, stands in the church yard today.

DR. CHARLES MALONE RICHARDS

Dr. Charles Malone Richards, the son of John Gardiner and Sophia Smith Richards was born in Liberty Hill, S. C., February 1, 1871.

After graduating from Davidson College in 1895 he entered Columbia Theological Seminary where he studied and taught Hebrew and Greek.

He was licensed in 1895 and ordained by Harmony Presbytery in 1896 as pastor of Hebron and Hepzibah Churches, Sumter County, South Carolina.

In 1900 Dr. Richards was installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Statesville, North Carolina where he continued until 1908 when he went to the Presbyterian Church at Davidson. While pastor here he was Moderator of Synod of North Carolina and in 1926 he was elected professor of Bible and Philosophy at Davidson College. In 1938 Hampden-Sydney College made him a Doctor of Law. Since then he has been active in supplying vacant churches.

Dr. Richards married Miss Jane Layton McDowell of Manning, South Carolina. Their children include Miss Mary Jane Richards, who has been a member of the faculty in North Mecklenburg schools, James McDowell Richards, president of Columbia Theological Seminary, Mrs. J. C. Bailey and Miss Jane L. Richards, Dean of Converse College.

DR. CHARLES EDWARD RAYNAL

The Rev. Charles Edward Raynal, D.D., was the 10th minister installed by the Presbyteries to which our church has belonged. He was born in Savannah, Georgia, March 17, 1877, of French parents, his father, Pierre N. Raynal, having come directly from France, as a boy, and his mother, Ann Rebecka Girardeau, being of Huguenot ancestry. After early education in private schools, he entered South Western University, graduating there, with honors. At Princeton University he did graduate work, and at Princeton Seminary he completed his theological

preparation. Such men as Woodrow Wilson and Henry Van Dyke were his inspiration in those days. Licensed and ordained by North Alabama Presbytery, he served as assistant pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Alabama from 1904 to 1907. Following this, he held a fruitful and happy pastorate at St. Paul's Church, Charlotte, N. C. for two years. In 1909, Dr. Raynal became pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Statesville and served here until his retirement, October 1, 1944. On December 1, 1944, he was called to his Heavenly Home.

Dr. Raynal's pastorate of more than a third of a century saw the church expand in every regard. The present church was erected at a cost of \$200,000, the old cemetery wall was re-built, the grounds were planted beautifully. The lot on which the present manse stands was purchased. Church membership increased from 450 to 850. Gifts increased greatly. "Into his ministry he put joy, enthusiasm, faith, adventure—Seldom was any high objective planned for the town, that his voice was not raised in its behalf, and civic (as well as church) leaders placed a high appraisal on his counsel."

His "Doctor of Divinity" was bestowed by Davidson College. Among many and varied interests, he was a member of the National Geographic Society, The Torrey Botanical Club of N. Y., The S. C. Literary and Historical Society, The Huguenot Society of S. C. and the N. C. Historical Society and Academy of Science. He wrote a large number of articles of religious, scientific and social importance for national publication. "His wood carving was the work of a true artist, his gardening a labor of love, his ministry, a cause for continued thankfulness among his people."

THE REV. NEILL RODERICK McGEACHY

Mr. McGeachy, the son of the Reverend Daniel Patrick McGeachy and his wife, Lila English, was born in Lenoir, North Carolina. His early education was received at Greenbrier Military School, Lewisburg, West Virginia and the public schools in Decatur, Georgia. Mr. McGeachy graduated from Davidson College in the class of 1930. He taught for two years in a mission school in Omdurman, The Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Africa. On returning to this country he entered Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, and graduated in 1935. He was ordained by Granville Presbytery in the summer of 1935 and served a group of churches in Johnston County. He also served the Spencer Church in Rowan County, and the Sugaw Creek Church in Mecklenburg County. Mr. McGeachy was called to the Statesville Church in January, 1945, and was installed by Concord Presbytery on March 11, 1945.

Scene XIII—

The organ plays, "Onward Christian Soldiers" as the Narrator reads a short biography of the ministers of the church. As each name is called the minister walks to the center of the stage and stands until his biography is read. He then takes his place in the line of ministers across the back of the stage.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Dr. James Hall: Frank Hall

Dr. Lewis F. Wilson: Clarence N. Steele

The Rev. Daniel Gould: W. Herbert Morrison

The Rev. Robert L. Caldwell: W. Bonner Knox

Dr. E. F. Rockwell: Ralph Holmes

The Rev. P. H. Dalton: Pleasant Hunter Dalton

Dr. Walter W. Pharr: C. E. Pharr

Dr. William A. Wood: Joseph G. Miller

Dr. Charles M. Richards: Dr. Charles M. Richards

Dr. Charles E. Raynal: John Scott Raynal

The Rev. Neill R. McGeachy: The Rev. Neill R. McGeachy

(Following Mr. McGeachy, the present elders, deacons and the presiding officers of the organizations of the church take their places in front of the past ministers.)

Narrator: From the church in the last one hundred years the following ministers have gone out to fill pulpits across the nation: The Rev. Wade H. Allison, the Rev. Lewis E. Bostian, the Rev. E. Paschal Bradley, the Rev. A. S. Caldwell, the Rev. Ernest Caldwell, the Rev. W. P. Gibbs, the Rev. W. B. Knox, the Rev. McK. R. Long, the Rev. W. H. Matheson, the Rev. H. R. Overcash, the Rev. W. E. Phifer, the Rev. Charles E. Raynal, Jr., the Rev. H. Middleton Raynal, the Rev. J. McDowell Richards, the Rev. J. W. Rosebro, the Rev. L. R. Scott, the Rev. John R. Smith, the Rev. R. D. Stimson, the Rev. Miles C. Wood and the Rev. W. A. Wood.

Another son of the church, the Rev. J. Harper Brady served about twenty-five years on the mission field in Japan.

In the last one hundred years, this congregation has welcomed over three thousand new members into its membership. Among these was a number of Negroes who worshipped with their masters, and who were dismissed to churches of their choice following the War Between the States.

In this same period of time the members have exceeded one and a third million dollars in their total amount of giving.

Yes, they did build. This Fourth Creek congregation. Their children, and their children's children. Besides the six houses of worship, and the organization of Concord and Bethany congregations, Front Street Presbyterian church was organized in 1896. Missions were established at Park Place, Morrison's Chapel and Cloverdale, a Negro chapel.

To quote one of the most beloved ministers, Dr. Charles E. Raynal, "Throughout the history of this church, the elders and deacons have been men of exceptional devotion and strength of mind. Their sturdy character and faithful performance of their duties have had as much to do in moulding the life of the church as the labors of its ministers . . ."

"Few churches have had a more distinguished history. These people have a great past. There is good ground for the hope that they have also a great future."

(The audience joins with the choir and cast in singing, "Faith of Our Fathers.")

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Session: D. H. Andrews, J. A. Brady, F. N. Crawford, F. H. Deaton, L. O. Gibson, M.D., W. L. Gilbert, *Clerk*, R. D. Grier, W. F. Hall, Jr., J. R. Hill, S. P. Jones, H. H. King, S. J. Knox, J. O. McAuley, John Montgomery, J. H. Nicholson, D.D.S., T. F. Scott, Karl Sherrill, J. H. Stimson, L. G. Turner, W. T. Warlick and W. C. Wooten.

Diaconate: Paul Gilbert, *Chairman*, John C. Fowler, *Secretary*, J. C. Steele, Jr., *Vice-Chairman*, A. J. Boyd, *Treasurer*. W. H. Allen, Karl Deaton, Herbert Hawthorne, Nathan McElwee, H. D. Rhodes, Fred Slane, Jr., H. C. Brett, R. R. Cowles, J. M. Deaton, Jr., W. H. Morrison, C. L. Sears, S. H. Stevenson, Louis A. Brown, George Cathey, J. B. Earle, John Gilbert, Joel Marlin, W. L. Neely, Jr., Dan H. Purifoy and Robert White.

Ushers: F. G. Deaton, *Chairman*

Sunday School: J. A. Brady, *Superintendent*

Women of the Church: Mrs. H. H. King, *President*

Men's Club: H. R. Long, *President*

Youth Fellowship: Seniors: L. R. Shaw, Jr., *President*
Pioneers: Harriet Sloop, *President*

Boy Scout Troop No. 10: James E. Pharr, *Scoutmaster*

Sexton: Z. P. Sides

Director of Religious Education: Miss Helen Brown

Secretary and Assistant Treasurer: Mrs. E. H. McJunkin

Lighting Arrangement Courtesy B. J. Powell Electric Company

Sound Equipment Courtesy Troutman Radio Service

MORNING WORSHIP, SEPTEMBER 13, 1953

PRELUDE: "The Heavens Are Telling" *Haydn*
Organ: Miss Gladys Stephens Piano: Miss Patty Warlick

CALL TO WORSHIP: by the minister

DOXOLOGY *Bourgeois*

INVOCATION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

HYMN 333: "The Church's One Foundation" (1,2,3,4) *Wesley*

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:13-26

ANTHEM: "Praise The Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him" *Prichard*

CHIMES (for meditation and prayer)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY: "Break Forth Into Joy" *Simper*

DEDICATION OF OFFERING (congregational response 394)

SILENT PRAYER FOR SERVICEMEN AND PEACE

SERMON: "The Task of the Church In Our Time"
..... Dr. J. McDowell Richards

PRAYER

HYMN 346: "Rise, Crowned with Light" (1,2,3) *Lwoff*

BENEDICTION: "Sevenfold Amen" *Stainer*

POSTLUDE: "With Pomp and Glory" *Kohlmann*

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